

REMARKS

The present Amendment cancels claims 1-5 and adds new claims 6 and 7. Therefore, the present application has pending claims 6 and 7.

Claims 1-5 stand provisionally rejected under 35 USC §101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-3 of copending application 10/078,404, filed February 21, 2002. As indicated above, claims 1-5 were canceled. Therefore, this rejection is rendered moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

The specification stands objected to due informalities noted by the Examiner in paragraph 3 of the Office Action. Amendments were made to the specification to correct the informalities noted by the Examiner. Therefore, this objection is overcome and should be withdrawn. Additional amendments were made throughout the specification to correct minor errors grammatical and editorial in nature discovered upon review. Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regards as their invention. As indicated above, claims 1-5 were canceled. Therefore, this rejection is rendered moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Quirt (U.S. Patent No. 6,701,382 B2). As indicated above, claims 1-5 were canceled. Therefore, this rejection is rendered moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

It should be noted that the cancellation of claims 1-5 was not intended nor should it be considered as an agreement on Applicants part that the features recited in claims 1-5 are taught or suggested by any of the references of record, particularly Qurt, whether taken individually or in combination with each other. The cancellation of claims 1-5 was simply intended to expedite prosecution of the present application.

As per the above, new claims 6 and 7 were added directed to features of the present invention particularly with regard to a method of controlling a program and a program control system not taught or suggested by any of the references of record whether taken individually or in combination with each other.

According to the present invention, a request, including a component judgment condition which is used to determine a component kind, is inputted and a component kind is acquired by referring a component kind list based on the component judgment condition and an interface name. According to the present invention, the component kind list sets forth correspondence among the interface name, the component kind and the component judgment condition.

Further, according to the present invention, component referring information is acquired by referring to a component referring information list based on the interface name and the acquired component referring information is output so as to be used in controlling the program or control program system.

The above described features of the present invention now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by any of the references of record, particularly Qurt, whether taken individually or in combination with each other.

Quirt teaches a software name service object providing facility for supporting transparent container objects. Particularly, Quirt is directed to a software name service object providing facility wherein a plurality of objects of the same class are distributed into a plurality of groups so as to generate a container object in each group and the container object which includes the objects of the group. Thus, in Quirt objects in the distributed system are allowed to communicate with specific ones of objects within containers without requiring the name service to store an entry for each object included in the container. This teaching of Quirt allows for a reduction in the size of the data structures within the name service.

Thus, for example, as discussed in col. 10, lines 31-42 and in Fig. 4 of Quirt:

“an external object 400 sends a message 408 to the name service 402 requesting the object reference of an entity. The request message 408 contains the persistent name including the kind and identifier of the entity sought. The persistent name may be the name of a standalone object, or of an object in a container. The name service 402 receives the message 408 and looks up the object reference 410. In looking up the persistent name reference, the Name Service identifies the kind of the object and checks if the identifier portion of the persistent name is in the identifier range of any registered container object. If the object is within a container's range of identifiers, the Name Service calculates an index value for the object within its container using a predetermined algorithm”.

As is quite clear from the above, the persistent name 108 sent to the name service 402 includes the “kind” and the “identifier” of the object within the container. Thus, in Quirt the identifier corresponds to the object and is not a component judgment condition which is used to determine a component kind as in the present invention.

As clearly described above in the present invention the request includes a component judgment condition which is used to determine a component kind. In the present invention, the component judgment condition is used relative to a component kind list which relates the component judgment condition to the component kind and an interface name. Further, according to the present invention, the component kind and interface name acquired based upon the component judgment condition is used to acquire component referring information that is output so as to be used in controlling the program. Such features are clearly not taught or suggested by Quirt whether taken individually or in combination with any of the other references of record.

Thus, based on the above, it is quite clear that the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in new claims 6 and 7 are not anticipated nor rendered obvious by any of the references of record particularly Quirt whether taken individually or in combination with each other. Accordingly, allowance of the present application based on claims 6 and 7 is respectfully requested.

The remaining references of record have been studied. Applicants submit that they do not supply any of the deficiencies noted above with respect to the reference utilized in the rejection of claims 1-5.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants submit that claims 6 and 7 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 6 and 7 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (500.40255X00).

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl I. Brundidge', is written over a horizontal line.

Carl I. Brundidge
Registration No. 29,621

CIB/jdc
(703) 684-1120